

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 18, 2004

Women's Health Advocates:
Vote Yes on Waxman-Tierney Amendment

Dear Colleague:

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America and NARAL Pro-Choice America have both just issued strong statements of support for the Waxman-Tierney Amendment to H.R. 2432. This amendment would establish an independent, bipartisan commission to study the politicization of science in the regulatory process and make recommendations to protect scientific integrity.

The amendment responds to growing concern in the scientific community about political interference with science. In recent months, 20 Nobel Laureates, major scientific journals including *Science* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and major scientific organizations have called attention to this alarming trend.

This afternoon, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the world's largest volunteer, nonprofit reproductive health care association, wrote members of Congress:

Planned Parenthood Federation strongly urges you to support this amendment. Over the past few years an alarming amount of decisions that should have been decided on scientific merits have been politicized. Ideology has crept into all aspects of the government's decision-making on science. Some of the most egregious examples have affected women's health and well-being.

And NARAL wrote:

Since the first days of the Bush administration, public health and science have been politicized and subverted in favor of an ideological agenda. . . . The American public deserves a federal government that does not censor, rewrite or hide important health information, and one that makes policy decisions based on sound science — not ideology. This issue bears very close examination, and the Waxman-Tierney amendment is an important step in the right direction.

For more information about this amendment, please contact Josh Sharfstein at 225-5420.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Government Reform